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8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
9 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
10 SOUTHERN DIVISION  
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12 CALIFORNIA SURGICAL INSTITUTE, )  
13 INC., )

14 Plaintiff, )

15 v. )

16 AETNA LIFE AND CASUALTY )  
(BERMUDA) LTD., et al., )

17 Defendants. )  
18

No. SA CV 17-310-AG (PLAx)

**MEMORANDUM AND ORDER RE:  
PARTIES' PROPOSED STIPULATION AND  
QUALIFIED PROTECTIVE ORDER**

19 The Court has received and considered the parties' proposed Stipulation and Qualified  
20 Protective Order ("Protective Order"). The Court is unable to adopt the Protective Order as  
21 stipulated to by the parties for the following reasons:

22 First, if confidential material is included in any papers to be filed in Court, such papers shall  
23 be accompanied by an application to file the papers -- or the confidential portion thereof -- under  
24 seal; the application must demonstrate good cause for the under seal filing. (See page 5, ¶ 4).  
25 The application shall be directed to the judge to whom the papers are directed. Pending the ruling  
26 on the application, the papers or portions thereof subject to the sealing application shall be lodged  
27 under seal.  
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1 Second, any challenge to the designation or disclosure of confidential information must  
2 occur within the discovery period established by the District Judge. (See page 7, at ¶ 9).

3 Third, in the event of a dispute regarding the designation or disclosure of confidential  
4 information, the procedure for obtaining a decision from the Court is that set forth in Local Rule  
5 37. (See, e.g., pages 7-8, ¶ 9). If the parties want to file the Joint Stipulation required by Local  
6 Rule 37 under seal, the parties may file a stipulation to that effect or the moving party may file an  
7 ex parte application making the appropriate request. The parties must set forth good cause in the  
8 stipulation or ex parte application as to why the Joint Stipulation or portions thereof should be filed  
9 under seal.

10 Fourth, once a case proceeds to trial, all of the court-filed information that is to be  
11 introduced and was previously designated as confidential and/or kept and maintained pursuant  
12 to the terms of a protective order becomes public and will be presumptively available to all  
13 members of the public, including the press, unless compelling reasons supported by specific  
14 factual findings to proceed otherwise are made to the district judge in advance of the trial. See,  
15 e.g., Hagestad v. Tragesser, 49 F.3d 1430, 1434 (9th Cir. 1995); San Jose Mercury News, Inc.  
16 v. U.S. District Court - Northern District, 187 F.3d 1096, 1102 (9th Cir. 1999); Kamakana v. City  
17 and County of Honolulu, 447 F.3d 1172, 1180-81 (9th Cir. 2006) (distinguishing “good cause”  
18 showing for sealing documents produced in discovery and attached to non-dispositive motions  
19 from “compelling reasons” standard when merits-related documents are part of the judicial record).  
20 The Court will not enter a protective order that extends beyond the commencement of trial.

21 Finally, the Court may only enter a protective order upon a showing of good cause. Phillips  
22 v. G.M. Corp., 307 F.3d 1206, 1209 (9th Cir. 2002) (Rule 26(c) requires a showing of “good cause”  
23 for a protective order); Makar-Wellbon v. Sony Electronics, Inc., 187 F.R.D. 576, 577 (E.D.Wis.  
24 1999) (even stipulated protective orders require good cause showing). The parties’ stipulation  
25 does not contain sufficient statements to demonstrate good cause for issuing the protective order.  
26 In any revised stipulated protective order submitted to the Court, the parties must include a  
27 statement demonstrating good cause for entry of a protective order pertaining to the documents  
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1 or information described in the order. The paragraph containing the statement of good cause  
2 should be preceded by a heading stating: "GOOD CAUSE STATEMENT."

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4 DATED: October 10, 2017

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PAUL L. ABRAMS  
6 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE  
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